THE

NEWPORT MERCURY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1794. [No 1669.]

NEWPORT: (*Rhode-Island*) Published by HENRY BARBER, near the State-House.

State of Rhode-Island, &c.
In GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *March Session*, A. D. 1794

An ACT to organize the Militia of this State.

WHEREAS by the Constitution of the United States, the Congress have power to provide for the organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States; reserving to the States respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress: And whereas the Congress did on the 8th day of May, A. D. 1792, pass an Act, entitled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the national defence, by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States:" Which Act is in the following words, to wit:—

"*An ACT more effectually to provide for the national defence, by establishing an uniform Militia throughout the United States.*

BE *it Enacted by the Senate, and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That each and every free, able-bodied, white male citizen of the respective States, resident therein, who is or shall be of the age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty five years (except as is hereinafter excepted) shall severally and respectively be enrolled in the militia, by the captain or commanding officer of the company, within whose bounds such citizen shall reside, and that within twelve months after the passing of this act. And it shall at all times hereafter be the duty of every such captain or commanding officer of a company, to enrol every such citizen, as aforesaid, and also those who shall from time to time, arrive at the age of eighteen years, or being of the age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty-five years (except as before excepted) shall come to reside within his bounds; and shall without delay notify such citizen of the said enrolment, by whom such notice may be proved.—That every citizen, so enrolled and notified, shall, within six months thereafter, provide himself with a good musket or firelock, a sufficient bayonet and belt, two spare flints and a knapsack, a pouch with a box therein, to contain not less than twenty-four cartridges, suited to the bore of his musket or firelock, each cartridge to contain a proper quantity of powder and ball: or with a good rifle, knapsack, shot-pouch and powder horn, twenty balls suited to the bore of his rifle, and a quarter of a pound of powder; and shall appear, so armed, accoutred and provided, when called out to exercise, or into service, except that when called out on company days to exercise only, he may appear without a knapsack. That the commissioned officers shall severally be armed with a sword or hanger, and espontoon; and that from and after five years from the passing of this act, all musquets for arming the militia as herein required, shall be of bores sufficient for balls of the eighteenth part of a pound, and every citizen so enrolled, and providing himself with the arms, ammunition and accoutrements required as aforesaid, shall hold the same exempted from all suits, distresses, executions or sales, for debt or for the payment of taxes.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That the Vice-President of the United States; the officers, judicial and executive of the government of the United States; the members of both Houses of Congress, and their respective officers; all custom house officers, with their clerks; all post-officers, and stage drivers who are employed in the care and conveyance of the mail or the post office of the United States; all ferrymen employed at any ferry on the post road; all inspectors of exports; all pilots; all mariners actually employed in the sea service of any citizen or merchant within the United States; and all persons who now are or may hereafter be exempted by the laws of the respective States, shall be and are hereby exempted from militia duty, notwithstanding their being above the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That within one year after the passing of this act, the militia of the respective States shall be arranged into divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions and companies, as the legislature of each State shall direct; and each division, brigade, and regiment shall be numbered at the formation thereof; and a record made of such numbers in the adjutant-general's office in the State; and when in the field, or in service in the State, each division, brigade and regiment shall, respectively, take rank according to their numbers, reckoning the first or lowest number highest in rank. That if the same be convenient, each brigade shall consist of four regiments; each regiment of two battalions; each battalion of five companies; and each company of sixty-four privates. That the said militia shall be officered by the respective States, as follows: To each division, one major general and two aids de-camp, with the rank of major; to each brigade one brigadier-general, with one brigade inspector, to serve also as brigade major, with the rank of a major; to each regiment, one lieutenant-colonel commandant; and to each battalion, one major; to each company, one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, four serjeants, four corporals, one drummer, and one fifer or bugler. That there shall be a regimental staff, to consist of one adjutant, and one quarter master, to rank as lieutenants; one paymaster; one surgeon, and one surgeon's mate; one serjeant-major; one drum-major, and one fife major.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That out of the militia enrolled, as is herein directed, there shall be formed for each battalion, at least one company of grenadiers, light infantry or riflemen; and that to each division there shall be at least, one company of artillery, and one troop of horse: There shall be to each company of artillery, one captain, two lieutenants, four serjeants, four corporals, six gunners, six bombardiers, one drummer and one fifer. The officers to be armed with a sword or hanger, a fuice, bayonet and belt, with a cartridge box to contain twelve cartridges; and each private or matross shall furnish himself with all the equipments of a private in the infantry, until proper ordnance and field artillery is provided. There shall be to each troop of horse, one captain, two lieutenants, one cornet, four serjeants, four corporals, one tadolier, one farries, and one trumpeter. The commissioned officers to furnish themselves with good horses, of at least fourteen hands and an half high, and to be armed with a sword and pair of pistols, the holsters of which to be covered with bearskin caps.—Each dragoon to furnish himself with a serviceable horse, at least fourteen hands and an half high, a good saddle, bridle, mail pillion and valise, holsters, and a breast plate and crupper, a pair of boots and spurs, a pair of pistols, a sabre, and a cartouch box to contain twelve cartridges for pistols. That each company of artillery and troop of horse shall be formed of volunteers from the brigade, at the discretion of the commander in chief of the State, not exceeding one company of each to a regiment, nor more in number than one eleventh part of the infantry, and shall be uniformly clothed in regimentals, to be furnished at their own expence; the colour and fashion to be determined by the brigadier commanding the brigade to which they belong.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That each battalion and regiment shall be provided with the State and regimental colours by the field officers, and each company with a drum and fife or bugle horn, by the commissioned officers of the company, in such manner as the legislature of the respective States shall direct.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That there shall be an adjutant-general appointed in each State, whose duty it shall be to distribute all orders from the commander in chief of the State to the several corps; to attend all public reviews, when the commander in chief of the State shall review the militia or any part thereof; to obey all orders from him relative to carrying into execution and perfecting the system of military discipline established by this act; to furnish blank forms of different returns that may be required, and to explain the principles on which they should be made; to receive from the several officers of the different corps throughout the State, returns of the militia under their command, reporting the actual situation of their arms, accoutrements and ammunition, their delinquencies, and every other thing which relates to the general advancement of good order and discipline—All which, the several officers of the divisions, brigades, regiments and battalions are hereby required to make in the usual manner, so that the said adjutant-general may be duly furnished therewith: From all which returns he shall make proper abstracts and lay the same annually before the commander in chief of the state.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That the rules of discipline approved and established by Congress, in their resolution of the 29th of March, 1779, shall be the rules of discipline to be observed by the militia throughout the United States, except such deviations from the said rules, as may be rendered necessary by the requisitions of this act, or by some other unavoidable circumstances. It shall be the duty of the commanding officer at every muster, whether by battalion, regiment, or single company, to cause the militia to be exercised and trained agreeably to the said rules of discipline.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That all commissioned officers shall take rank according to the date of their commissions; and when two of the same grade bear an equal date, then their rank to be determined by lot, to be drawn by them before the commanding officer of the brigade, regiment, battalion, company or detachment.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That if any person, whether officer or soldier belonging to the militia of any State, and called out into the service of the United States, be wounded or disabled while in actual service, he shall be taken care of and provided for at the public expence.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the brigade inspector to attend the regimental and battalion meetings of the militia, composing their several brigades, during the time of their being under arms, to inspect their arms, ammunition and accoutrements; superintend their exercise and manœuvres, and introduce the system of military discipline, before described throughout the brigade, agreeable to law, and such orders as they shall from time to time receive from the commander in chief of the State; to make returns to the adjutant general of the State; at least once in every year, of the militia of the brigade to which he belongs, reporting therein the actual situation of the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the several corps, and every other thing which, in his judgment, may relate to their government and the general advancement of good order and military discipline, and the adjutant-general shall make a return of all the militia of the State, to the commander in chief of the said State, and a duplicate of the same to the President of the United States.

"And whereas sundry corps of artillery, cavalry and infantry, now exist in several of the said States, which by the laws, customs, or usage thereof, have not been incorporated with or subjected to the general regulations of the militia:

"*Be it further Enacted*, That such corps retain their accustomed privileges, subject nevertheless, to all other duties required by this act, in like manner with the other militia."

Section 1. And whereas the reservations contained in the said Constitution, relative to the Militia of the States respectively, render it necessary that provision should be made in the premises by the Legislature of this state:

Be it therefore Enacted by this General Assembly, and by the Authority thereof it is hereby Enacted, That the whole Militia of this State shall be arranged into one division; that the said division shall constitute four brigades: That the militia in the counties of Newport and Bristol shall form one brigade, the militia in the county of Providence one brigade, the militia in the county of Washington one brigade, and the militia in the County of Kent one brigade: That the brigade in the counties of Newport and Bristol shall consist of four regiments, the brigade in the county of Providence of seven regiments, the brigade in the county of Washington of four regiments, and the brigade in the county of Kent of three regiments: That each regiment, whose numbers in the opinion of the field-officers will admit of it, shall be divided into two battalions: And that the said militia shall be divided into classes, under the denominations of senior class, and infantry.

Sec. 2. *And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid* That the regiments of infantry be constituted as follows, to wit: That the towns of Newport, Portsmouth New Shoreham, Jamestown and Middletown, constitute one regiment, and the towns of Tiverton and Little Compton one regiment; that the towns of Bristol, Warren and Barrington constitute one regiment; that the towns of Providence and North-Providence constitute one regiment, the towns of Smithfield and Cumberland one regiment, the town of Scituate one regiment, the town of Glocester one regiment, the towns of Cranston and Johnston one regiment, and the town of Foster one regiment; that the towns of Westerly, Charlestown and Hopkinton constitute one regiment, the towns of North Kingstown and Exeter one regiment, and the towns of South Kingstown and Richmond one regiment; and that the towns of Warwick and East Greenwich constitute one regiment, and the towns of West-Greenwich and Coventry one regiment.

Sec. 3. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, That there be four companies of infantry in the town of Newport, five in the town of Providence two in the town of Portsmouth, three in the town of Warwick, four in the town of Westerly, one in the town of New-Shoreham, four in the town of North Kingstown, four in the town of South Kingstown, two in the town of East-Greenwich, one in the town of Jamestown three in the town of Smithfield, four in the town of Scituate, six in the town of Glocester, two in the town of Charlestown, three in the town of West-Greenwich four in the town of Coventry, three in the town of Exeter, one in the town of Middletown, one in the town of Bristol, three in the town of Tiverton, two in the town of Little Compton, two in the town of Warren, three in the town of Cumberland, two in the town of Richmond, three in the town of Cranston, four in the town of Hopkinton, four in the town of Johnston, two in the town of North-Providence, one in the town of Barrington, and four in the town of Foster: And that the aforesaid division, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies be officered agreeably to the above recited act of Congress, and engaged according to law.

Sec. 4. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, That in addition to the persons exempted from military duty by the act of the United States herein before recited, there shall be and hereby are exempted by this act from such duty, either in the regiments of senior class or infantry, the following persons, to wit: members of both houses of the legislature, the justices of the superior court of judicature, the justices of the court of common pleas, the secretary, the attorney-general, the general treasurer, one ferryman to each ferry, the ministers and teachers of each church or congregation, the president, professors, tutors, students and steward of Rhode Island college, and all persons who are conscientiously scrupulous against bearing arms, and who shall produce to the captain in whose district they reside certificates of their belonging to the society of Friends from the clerk of their meeting; or shall make affirmation before either of the justices of the superior court of judicature, or of the court of common pleas, of their being thus conscientiously scrupulous as aforesaid, and produce a certificate that they have so affirmed.

Sec. 5. *Provided nevertheless, and it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, That all persons who are by this act hereafter be exempted from military service as in the preceding section, and shall not perform the same as directed by this act, except as is herein after excepted, shall pay for such exemption, and as an equivalent for the said services, the sum of twelve shillings annually, that the same be paid into the town treasuries of the respective towns for the use of the State, to be appropriated as the General Assembly shall direct. That the commanding officers of the several companies return a list of all those persons to the town-treasurers of their respective towns, who are hereby empowered and directed to issue their warrants within ten days to the town-treasurers and their respective towns, commanding them to collect and pay the same into the treasury within forty days: that the town-treasurer of each town make true return of the sums of money so collected to the General Assembly annually, at the general election. *Provided further* that every settled minister of each church and congregation, the president, professors, tutors, students and steward of Rhode Island College, shall be exempted from paying the said equivalent.

Sec. 6. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid*, That all persons of the following description be exempted from serving in the regiments of infantry

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An ACT to organize the Militia of this State.

WHEREAS by the Conſtitution of the United States, the Congreſs have power to provide for the organizing, arming and diſciplining the militia, and for governing ſuch part of them as may be employed in the ſervice of the United States; reſerving to the States reſpectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the diſcipline preſcribed by Congreſs: And whereas the Congreſs did on the 8th day of May, A. D. 1792, paſs an Act, entitled, "An Act more effectually to provide for the national defence, by eſtabliſhing an uniform militia throughout the United States:" Which Act is in the following words, to wit:—

"*An ACT more effectually to provide for the national defence, by eſtabliſhing an uniform Militia throughout the United States.*

BE *it Enacted by the Senate, and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled*, That each and every free, able-bodied, white male citizen of the reſpective States, reſident therein, who is or ſhall be of the age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty five years (except as is hereinafter excepted) ſhall ſeverally and reſpectively be enrolled in the militia, by the captain or commanding officer of the company, within whoſe bounds ſuch citizen ſhall reſide, and that within twelve months after the paſſing of this act. And it ſhall at all times hereafter be the duty of every ſuch captain or commanding officer of a company, to enrol every ſuch citizen, as aforeſaid, and alſo thoſe who ſhall from time to time, arrive at the age of eighteen years, or being of the age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty-five years (except as before excepted) ſhall come to reſide within his bounds; and ſhall without delay notify ſuch citizen of the ſaid enrolment, by a proper non-commiſſioned officer of the company, by whom ſuch notice may be proved.—That every citizen, ſo enrolled and notified, ſhall, within ſix months thereafter, provide himſelf with a good muſket or firelock, a ſufficient bayonet and belt, two ſpare flints and a knapſack, a pouch with a box therein, to contain not leſs than twenty-four cartridges, ſuited to the bore of his muſket or firelock, each cartridge to contain a proper quantity of powder and ball: or with a good rifle, knapſack, ſhot-pouch and powder horn, twenty balls ſuited to the bore of his rifle, and a quarter of a pound of powder; and ſhall appear, ſo armed, accoutred and provided, when called out to exerciſe, or into ſervice, except that when called out on company days to exerciſe only, he may appear without a knapſack. That the commiſſioned officers ſhall ſeverally be armed with a ſword or hanger, and eſpontoon; and that from and after five years from the paſſing of this act, all muſquets for arming the militia as herein required, ſhall be of bores ſufficient for balls of the eighteenth part of a pound, and every citizen ſo enrolled, and providing himſelf with the arms, ammunition and accoutrements required as aforeſaid, ſhall hold the ſame exempted from all ſuits, diſtreſſes, executions or ſales, for debt or for the payment of taxes.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That the Vice-Preſident of the United States; the officers, judicial and executive of the government of the United States; the members of both Houſes of Congreſs, and their reſpective officers; all cuſtom houſe officers, with their clerks; all poſt-officers, and ſtage drivers who are employed in the care and conveyance of the mail of the poſt-office of the United States; all ferrymen employed at any ferry on the poſt road; all inſpectors of exports; all pilots; all mariners actually employed in the ſea ſervice of any citizen or merchant within the United States; and all perſons who now are or may hereafter be exempted by the laws of the reſpective States, ſhall be and are hereby exempted from militia duty, notwithſtanding their being above the age of eighteen and under the age of forty-five years.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That within one year after the paſſing of this act, the militia of the reſpective States ſhall be arranged into diviſions, brigades, regiments, battalions and companies, as the legiſlature of each State ſhall direct; and each diviſion, brigade, and regiment ſhall be numbered at the formation thereof; and a record made of ſuch numbers in the adjutant-general's office in the State; and when in the field, or in ſervice in the State, each diviſion, brigade and regiment ſhall, reſpectively, take rank according to their numbers, reckoning the firſt or loweſt number higheſt in rank. That if the ſame be convenient, each brigade ſhall conſiſt of four regiments; each regiment of two battalions; each battalion of five companies; and each company of ſixty-four privates. That the ſaid militia ſhall be officered by the reſpective States, as follows: To each diviſion, one major-general and two aids-de-camp, with the rank of major; to each brigade one brigadier-general, with one brigade inſpector, to ſerve alſo as brigade major, with the rank of a major; to each regiment, one lieutenant-colonel commandant; and to each battalion, one major; to each company, one captain, one lieutenant, one enſign, four ſerjeants, four corporals, one drummer, and one fifer or bugler. That there ſhall be a regimental ſtaff, to conſiſt of one adjutant, and one quarter maſter, to rank as lieutenants; one paymaſter; one ſurgeon, and one ſurgeon's mate; one ſerjeant-major; one drum-major, and one fife major.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That out of the militia enrolled, as is herein directed, there ſhall be formed for each battalion, at leaſt one company of grenadiers, light infantry or rifle-men; and that to each diviſion there ſhall be at leaſt, one company of artillery, and one troop of horſe: There ſhall be to each company of artillery, one captain, two lieutenants, four ſerjeants, four corporals, ſix gunners, ſix bombardiers, one drummer and one fifer. The officers to be armed with a ſword or hanger, a fuſee, bayonet and belt, with a cartridge box to contain twelve cartridges; and each private or matroſs ſhall furniſh himſelf with all the equipments of a private in the infantry, until proper ordnance and field artillery is provided. There ſhall be to each troop of horſe, one captain, two lieutenants, one corner, four ſerjeants, four corporals, one ſaddler, one farrier, and one trumpeter. The commiſſioned officers to furniſh themſelves with good horſes, of at leaſt fourteen hands and an half high, and to be armed with a ſword and pair of piſtols, the holſters of which to be covered with bearſkin caps.—Each dragoon to furniſh himſelf with a ſerviceable horſe, at leaſt fourteen hands and an half high, a good ſaddle, bridle, mail pillion and valiſe, holſters, and a breaſt plate and crupper, a pair of boots and ſpurs, a pair of piſtols, a ſabre, and a cartouch box to contain twelve cartridges for piſtols. That each company of artillery and troop of horſe ſhall be formed of volunteers from the brigade, at the diſcretion of the commander in chief of the State, not exceeding one company of each to a regiment; nor more in number than one eleventh part of the infantry; and ſhall be uniformly clothed in regimentals, to be furniſhed at their own expence; the colour and faſhion to be determined by the brigadier commanding the brigade to which they belong.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That each battalion and regiment ſhall be provided with the State and regimental colours by the field officers, and each company with a drum and fife or bugle horn, by the commiſſioned officers of the company, in ſuch manner as the legiſlature of the reſpective States ſhall direct.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That there ſhall be an adjutant-general appointed in each State, whoſe duty it ſhall be to diſtribute all orders from the commander in chief of the State to the ſeveral corps; to attend all public reviews, when the commander in chief of the State ſhall review the militia or any part thereof; to obey all orders from him relative to carrying into execution and perfecting the ſyſtem of military diſcipline eſtabliſhed by this act; to furniſh blank forms of different returns that may be required, and to explain the principles on which they ſhould be made; to receive from the ſeveral officers of the different corps throughout the State, returns of the militia under their command, reporting the actual ſituation of their arms, accoutrements and ammunition, their delinquencies, and every other thing which relates to the general advancement of good order and diſcipline—All which, the ſeveral officers of the diviſions, brigades, regiments and battalions are hereby required to make in the uſual manner, ſo that the ſaid adjutant-general may be duly furniſhed therewith: From all which returns he ſhall make proper abſtracts and lay the ſame annually before the commander in chief of the State.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That the rules of diſcipline approved and eſtabliſhed by Congreſs, in their reſolution of the 29th of March, 1779, ſhall be the rules of diſcipline to be obſerved by the militia throughout the United States, except ſuch deviations from the ſaid rules, as may be rendered neceſſary by the requiſitions of this act, or by ſome other unavoidable circumſtances. It ſhall be the duty of the commanding officer at every muſter, whether by battalion, regiment, or ſingle company, to cauſe the militia to be exerciſed and trained agreeably to the ſaid rules of diſcipline.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That all commiſſioned officers ſhall take rank according to the date of their commiſſions; and when two of the ſame grade bear an equal date, then their rank to be determined by lot, to be drawn by them before the commanding officer of the brigade, regiment, battalion, company or detachment.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That if any perſon, whether officer or ſoldier belonging to the militia of any State, and called out into the ſervice of the United States, be wounded or diſabled while in actual ſervice, he ſhall be taken care of and provided for at the public expence.

"*And be it further Enacted*, That it ſhall be the duty of the brigade inſpector to attend the regimental and battalion meetings of the militia, compoſing their ſeveral brigades, during the time of their being under arms, to inſpect their arms, ammunition and accoutrements; ſuperintend their exerciſe and manœuvres, and introduce the ſyſtem of military diſcipline, before deſcribed throughout the brigade, agreeable to law, and ſuch orders as they ſhall from time to time receive from the commander in chief of the State; to make returns to the adjutant general of the State; at leaſt once in every year, of the militia of the brigade to which he belongs, reporting therein the actual ſituation of the arms, accoutrements and ammunition of the ſeveral corps, and every other thing which, in his judgment, may relate to their government and the general advancement of good order and military diſcipline, and the adjutant-general ſhall make a return of all the militia of the State, to the commander in chief of the ſaid State, and a duplicate of the ſame to the Preſident of the United States.

"And whereas ſundry corps of artillery, cavalry and infantry, now exiſt in ſeveral of the ſaid States, which by the laws, cuſtoms, or uſages thereof, have not been incorporated with or ſubject to the general regulations of the militia:

"*Be it further Enacted*, That ſuch corps retain their accuſtomed privileges, ſubject nevertheleſs, to all other duties required by this act, in like manner with the other militia."

Section 1. And whereas the reſervations contained in the ſaid Conſtitution, relative to the Militia of the States reſpectively, render it neceſſary that proviſion ſhould be made in the premiſes by the Legiſlature of this ſtate;

Be it therefore Enacted by this General Aſſembly, and by the Authority thereof it is hereby Enacted, That the whole Militia of this State ſhall be arranged into one diviſion; that the ſaid diviſion ſhall conſtitute four brigades: That the militia in the counties of Newport and Briſtol ſhall form one brigade, the militia in the county of Providence one brigade, the militia in the county of Waſhington one brigade, and the militia in the county of Kent one brigade: That the brigade in the counties of Newport and Briſtol ſhall conſiſt of four regiments, the brigade in the county of Providence of ſeven regiments, the brigade in the county of Waſhington of four regiments, and the brigade in the county of Kent of three regiments: That each regiment, whoſe numbers in the opinion of the field-officers will admit of it, ſhall be divided into two battalions: And that the ſaid militia ſhall be divided into claſſes, under the denominations of ſenior claſs, and infantry.

Sec. 2. *And be it Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That the regiments of infantry be conſtituted as follows, to wit: That the towns of Newport, Portſmouth, New Shoreham, Jameſtown and Middletown, conſtitute one regiment, and the towns of Tiverton and Little-Compton one regiment; that the towns of Briſtol, Warren and Barrington conſtitute one regiment; that the towns of Providence and North-Providence conſtitute one regiment, the towns of Smithfield and Cumberland one regiment, the town of Scituate one regiment, the town of Gloceſter one regiment, the towns of Cranſton and Johnſton one regiment, and the town of Foſter one regiment; that the towns of Weſterly, Charleſtown and Hopkinton conſtitute one regiment, the towns of North-Kingſtown and Exeter one regiment, and the town of South Kingſtown and Richmond one regiment; and that the towns of Warwick and Eaſt Greenwich conſtitute one regiment, and the towns of Weſt-Greenwich and Coventry one regiment.

Sec. 3. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That there be four companies of infantry in the town of Newport, five in the town of Providence, two in the town of Portſmouth, three in the town of Warwick, four in the town of Weſterly, one in the town of New-Shoreham, four in the town of North Kingſtown, four in the town of South Kingſtown, two in the town of Eaſt-Greenwich, one in the town of Jameſtown, three in the town of Smithfield, four in the town of Scituate, ſix in the town of Gloceſter, two in the town of Charleſtown, three in the town of Weſt-Greenwich, four in the town of Coventry, three in the town of Exeter, one in the town of Middletown, one in the town of Briſtol, three in the town of Tiverton, two in the town of Little Compton, two in the town of Warren, three in the town of Cumberland, two in the town of Richmond, three in the town of Cranſton, four in the town of Hopkinton, four in the town of Johnſton, two in the town of North-Providence, one in the town of Barrington, and four in the town of Foſter: And that the aforeſaid diviſion, brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies be officered agreeably to the above recited act of Congreſs, and engaged according to law.

Sec. 4. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That in addition to the perſons exempted from military duty by the act of the United States herein before recited, there ſhall be and hereby are exempted by this act from ſuch duty, either in the regiments of ſenior claſs or infantry, the following perſons, to wit: the members of both houſes of the legiſlature, the juſtices of the ſuperior court of judicature, the juſtices of the court of common pleas, the ſecretary, the attorney-general, the general treaſurer, one ferryman to each ſtated ferry, the miniſters and teachers of each church or congregation, the preſident, profeſſors, tutors, ſtudents and ſteward of Rhode-Iſland college, and all perſons who are conſcientiouſly ſcrupulous againſt bearing arms, and who ſhall produce to the captain in whoſe diſtrict they reſide, certificates of their belonging to the ſociety of Friends, from the clerk of their meeting; or ſhall make affirmation before either of the juſtices of the ſuperior court of judicature, or of the court of common pleas, of their being thus conſcientiouſly ſcrupulous as aforeſaid, and produce a certificate that they have ſo affirmed.

Sec. 5. *Provided nevertheleſs, and it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That all perſons who are or ſhall hereafter be exempted from military ſervice as in the preceding ſection, and ſhall not perform the ſame as directed by this act, except as is herein after excepted, ſhall pay for ſuch exemption, and as an equivalent for the ſaid ſervices, the ſum of twelve ſhillings annually; that the ſame be paid into the town treaſuries of the reſpective towns for the uſe of the State, to be appropriated as the General Aſſembly ſhall direct: That the commanding officers of the ſeveral companies return a liſt of all thoſe perſons to the town-treaſurers of their reſpective towns, who are hereby empowered and directed to iſſue their warrants within ten days to the town-ſerjeants of their reſpective towns, commanding them to collect and pay the ſame into the treaſury within forty days: And that the town-treaſurer of each town make true returns of the ſums of money ſo collected to the General Aſſembly annually, at the general election. *Provided further*, that every ſettled miniſter of each church and congregation, the preſident, profeſſors, tutors, ſtudents and ſteward of Rhode Iſland College, ſhall be exempted from paying the ſaid equivalent.

Sec. 6. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That all perſons of the following deſcriptions be exempted from ſerving in the regiments of infantry,

to wit: All perſons who have ſerved or been in the place of general officers, juſtices of the peace or other commiſſioned officers, the high ſheriff of each county when in office, all ſworn practitioners of the law, phyſicians, ſurgeons, apothecaries, one miller to each griſt mill, town council-men, town-treaſurers, town clerks and town-ſerjeants, while ſerving in their reſpective ſtations.

Sec. 7. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That all perſons exempted as in the laſt preceding ſection, be formed into a ſeparate corps, to be known and called by the name of the ſenior claſs, in the ſeveral brigades to whoſe diſtricts they appertain; and that they be officered in the ſame manner as the regiments and companies of infantry, and be ſubject to the ſame regulations, except as to the times of muſtering and training.

Sec. 8. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That the ſenior claſs of the town of Providence conſtitute one company, that of the town of Cranſton one company, that of the town of Johnſton one company, that of the town of North-Providence one company, that of the town of Smithfield one company, that of the town of Cumberland one company, that of the town of Scituate one company, that of the town of Gloceſter one company, that of the town of Foſter one company; which ſaid companies ſhall form one regiment: That the ſenior claſs in the town of Weſterly conſtitute one company, that of the town of Charleſtown one company, that of the town of Hopkinton one company, that of the town of North-Kingſtown one company, that of the town of Exeter one company, that of the town of South Kingſtown one company, that of the town of Richmond one company; which ſaid companies ſhall be formed into one regiment: That the ſenior claſs in the towns of Briſtol, Warren and Barrington, conſtitute one company, that of the town of Tiverton one company, that of the town of Little Compton one company, that of the towns of Newport and Jameſtown one company, that of the towns of Portſmouth and Middletown one company; which companies ſhall be formed into one regiment: And that the ſenior claſs in the towns of Warwick and Eaſt-Greenwich conſtitute one company, and that of the town of Weſt Greenwich one company, that of the town of Coventry one company; which companies ſhall be formed into one regiment.—And the ſaid ſeveral corps of ſenior claſs ſhall be officered in the like manner as is preſcribed by the ſaid act of Congreſs.

Sec. 9. *And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That it ſhall be the duty of the commanding officers of companies of every deſcription in this State, on or before the firſt day of June next, to enrol every able bodied white male citizen belonging to their ſaid companies, and to notify ſuch perſons of their enrolment, by a proper non-commiſſioned officer of ſuch company: And that the ſaid commanding officers make a return of the ſame to the commandants of the regiment to which they reſpectively belong, who ſhall make returns of their reſpective regiments to the brigadier-generals. And where ſaid companies are not attached to any regiment, returns ſhall be made to the adjutant-general within twenty days after ſuch enrolment. And it ſhall be the duty of the brigade major of ſuch brigade from ſuch returns to form a brigade return, and ſend the ſame to the adjutant-general, on or before the fifteenth day of September next, who ſhall from the ſeveral returns thus made form a general return, and preſent the ſame to his Excellency the Governor on or before the firſt day of October next.

Sec. 10. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That every corporal who ſhall neglect to warn the men to appear at every rendezvous mentioned in this act, when thereunto required as aforeſaid, without ſufficient excuſe, ſhall forfeit the ſum of twelve ſhillings lawful money: That every non commiſſioned officer or private who ſhall neglect to appear at the regimental rendezvous, ſhall forfeit the ſum of ſix ſhillings, and for every day he ſhall neglect to appear at the company parade he ſhall forfeit four ſhillings and ſix pence. And if he ſhall not be armed and equipped according to the ſaid act of Congreſs, when ſo appearing, without a ſufficient excuſe, he ſhall for appearing without a gun forfeit one ſhilling and ſixpence, without a bayonet and belt, ſix pence, without a cartouch box and cartridges, ſix pence, without a knapſack, three pence, and without flints, priming wire, and brush, three pence. *Provided always*, That none of the fines aforeſaid; nor any other except thoſe mentioned in the ſixteenth ſection of this act ſhall be levied on any delinquent until after the expiration of ten days from the time of ſuch delinquency, nor then if the town-councils of the reſpective towns to which ſuch delinquents may belong, ſhall have determined that ſaid delinquents are unable to provide themſelves with arms. And all fines which ſuch captain or commanding officer of the company ſhall determine as proper to be exacted ſhall be levied by warrant from the captain or commanding officer of ſuch company to be iſſued after the expiration of twenty days from the time of ſuch delinquency, directed to one or more ſerjeants or corporals of the company to which ſuch offender belongs; whoſe duty it is hereby made to collect the ſame with ſuch fees as are taxable by law, for the like ſervices in civil caſes, by diſtreſs and ſale of the goods and chattles of the offenders reſpectively; and for want thereof by impriſonment until ſuch fine and coſt ſhall be paid: That in caſe ſuch defaulter ſhall live with his father or mother, or ſhall be an apprentice or indented ſervant, the maſter or miſtreſs, father or mother (as the caſe may be) ſhall be liable to pay ſuch fine with coſt; in default of which payment the ſaid ſerjeant or corporal ſhall levy the ſame upon the goods and chattels of the ſaid father or mother, maſter or miſtreſs—That all fines ſhall be appropriated under the direction of the ſeveral town-councils to which the ſeveral delinquents may belong: And that a ſum not exceeding ſix ſhillings per day ſhall be allowed to the corporal for warning the company to which he belongs; which ſum ſhall be paid him by the captain of ſaid company out of the firſt fines and forfeitures collected therein agreeably to this act; the number of days for which the corporal ſhall be in pay for warning the company as aforeſaid ſhall be aſcertained and allowed by the captain or commanding officer of ſuch company diſcretionally.

Sec. 11. *And it it further Enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That it ſhall be the duty of the field officers of the ſeveral regiments of ſenior claſs and infantry, to proceed with all convenient ſpeed in forming the ſeveral companies of grenadiers, light infantry and rifle-men for their ſaid regiments agreeably to the aforerecited act of Congreſs.

Sec. 12. *And it is further Enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That each regiment of infantry in this State ſhall meet twice in every year by companies, for the purpoſe of training, diſciplining and improving them in martial exerciſe, and once in every year in regiment or battalion; That all regiments of ſenior claſs ſhall meet in companies once in every two years, for the purpoſe of training, diſciplining and improving them in martial exerciſe: And that the places of rendezvouſing by companies be appointed by the commanding officers of the reſpective companies; the places of regimental or battalion rendezvous by the commandants of the regiments reſpectively; the times of rendezvouſing by companies by the reſpective commandants of the regiments; and the times of regimental or battalion rendezvous by the reſpective brigadiers: And that any officers who ſhall neglect or refuſe to appear as aforeſaid, with his company, when duly notified, and not having ſufficient excuſe, ſhall be tried by a Court Martial, and if found guilty, ſhall be broke and reduced to the ranks. *Provided nevertheleſs*, That the militia of New-Shoreham, ſhall not be obliged to rendezvous in battalion, but in company only, and then, on the Iſland of Block-Iſland.

Sec. 13. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That whenever the commanding officer of any company ſhall receive orders from the Brigadier of the diſtrict in which he reſides, or the commandant of the regiment (except in caſes of alarm) he ſhall iſſue his warrant for their aſſembling to the corporals of his company, ten days before the time appointed for muſter, requiring them to warn the men of their reſpective diſtricts to be by him aſſigned, either by perſonal notice, or by leaving word at their uſual places of abode, to aſſemble at the time and place appointed, equipped according to law. And the ſaid corporals ſhall cauſe the ſaid warrants to be ſerved ſix days before, and return the ſame with their doings thereon, one day before the aſſembling as aforeſaid.

Sec. 14. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That it ſhall be the duty of the brigade major in each diſtrict, to furniſh a copy of all orders for muſter to the commandants of the regiments within each reſpective brigade.

Sec. 15. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That when the troops, or any part of them, ſhall be aſſembled together for review or otherwiſe, it ſhall be in the power of the commanding officer to puniſh all diſorders or breaches of military order and diſcipline, whether in non-commiſſioned officers or privates, by immediately putting the offender under guard, for a ſpace of time not exceeding twelve hours, or by a fine not exceeding ſix ſhillings, at the diſcretion of the commanding officer; the ſaid fines to be collected as before mentioned.

Sec. 16. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That if any perſon who is a member of any independent company, do not produce a certificate from the commanding officer of the company to which he belongs ſpecifying that he is a member of ſuch company, to the officer who ſhall warn him for muſter, at any meeting of the company of the diſtrict wherein he reſides, he ſhall be held for the fines ſpecified in this act.

Sec. 17. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That whenever the military force of this State, or any part thereof, ſhall be called into actual ſervice, they ſhall be ſubject to the articles of war preſcribed by Congreſs, for the government of the troops of the United States.

Sec. 18. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That from and after the firſt Wedneſday in May next, all officers of the militia, deriving their appointments from the General Aſſembly, ſhall hold their reſpective appointments for and during the term of one year, from the time of their reſpective appointments; excepting in caſe of reſignation, or being removed by the legiſlature for miſdemeanor, or broke by ſentence of a court-martial.

Sec. 19. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That in addition to the officers to be appointed purſuant to the afore-recited act of Congreſs, there be alſo appointed for the militia of this State one director and purveyor general of the military hoſpital, one ſurgeon and phyſician-general, one quarter maſter general, one commiſſary general, with the power of ſubſtitution as occaſion may require: And that the adjutant-general ſhall have the rank of lieutenant-colonel commandant.

Sec. 20. *And it is further Enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That every Regimental Court-Martial ſhall conſiſt of at leaſt ſeven commiſſioned officers, one whereof at leaſt being a Captain; and ſhall be appointed by the commanding officer of the regiment, who is empowered to confirm, mitigate or diſapprove any ſentence by them given.

Sec. 21. *And it is further Enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That every General Court-Martial ſhall conſiſt of at leaſt thirteen commiſſioned officers, one whereof ſhall be a General or Field Officer, to be appointed by the Major General, or in his abſence by the next officer preſent in command; who is alſo empowered to approve, mitigate or annul any ſentence by them given.

Sec. 22. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That the diviſions of companies, as now exiſting in the ſeveral towns, be continued, ſubject however to ſuch alterations as their preſent numbers, or future increaſe or diminution may, in the judgment of the field-officers or the corps to which they belong, from time to time render neceſſary or expedient.

Sec. 23. *And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid*, That whenever it ſhall happen that any ſurveyor of the highways ſhall have warned the men of his diſtrict to work on the highways on the ſame day that ſhall be aſſigned for the training purſuant to this act, the ſaid warning to work upon the highways ſhall be conſidered as ſuperceded.

And it is further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all laws heretofore made, relative to organizing and diſciplining the militia of this State, be and the ſame are hereby repealed: And that this act ſhall take effect and be in force from and after the firſt day of May next.

It is Ordered, That a copy of this act be inſerted in all the newſ-papers in this State.

A true copy:

Witneſs, HENRY WARD, *Secry.*

For the NEWPORT MERCURY.

No. III.

"*Yes, thank my ſtars! as early as I knew*
This town, I had the ſenſe to hate it too;
Yet here, as ev'n in hell, there muſt be ſtill
One giant vice ſo excellently ill,
That all beſides one pities not abhors,
As who knows Sappho ſmiles at other w——s."

THO' I do not think the alluſions of the poet too ſtrong to apply to the caſe we are conſidering, and tho' the crime which we have to lament, is more aggravated in its nature than that of which he complains, yet I cannot agree with him, in bearing a *hate* to the town in which it is committed, for

"—— *thank my ſtars! as early as I knew*
This town, I had the ſenſe to love it too."

It may, perhaps, have appeared to ſome to be departing from the apparent deſign of my firſt publication, to admit of exceptions from my general obſervations, and to paliate the guilt of a crime of ſo atrocious a nature—But while I will manifeſt my deteſtation of thoſe, who continue obdurate in their offences, I would not drive thoſe who would willingly return to a proper ſenſe of their duty, to the neceſſity of remaining vicious—But ſo far from recommending them to a full participation of the rights of thoſe who have ever been virtuous, I think a ſtate of probation proper and requiſite.—We muſt be convinced of the repentance of ſuch hardy ſinners, by a long line of good behaviour.—We muſt have *actions* as well as *words*.—But in the mean time let us give them our hands, let there be a mutual communication of ſentiments, and ſuch will be the pleaſure and encouragement they will receive from the friendſhip of virtuous men, and from the forgiveneſs of thoſe they have offended, that we may entertain juſt hopes of adding to the liſt of patriots.—At any rate, the preſent nominal diſtinction of this political ſect, will be forgotten in the courſe of a few generations, and thoſe, whoſe progenitors ſhall have continued to retain their enmity to the country and government, will not by inheriting that enmity receive the name of *Tory*, but will be diſtinguiſhed by the more definite and preciſe term of *Traitor*.

In calling upon you, fellow-citizens, to change your officers, I aſk you to beſtow a bleſſing upon yourſelves.—I aſk all good and honeſt men, to free themſelves from the government of bad men, and place themſelves under that of the virtuous and patriotic.—The virtuous too ſeldom form combinations to carry points. It is the vicious and evil-minded who combine together.—Such a combination has promoted to offices, men whom I hope you are about to remove; and it is much to be regretted, that aſſociations of a religious kind, have ſometimes preſented in favour of theſe characters, minds which if apprehenſive of the conſequences, would feel a noble indignation at the idea of a *ſociety prejudice*, which ſhould in its effects injure their country.

There are other characters beſides thoſe we have already conſidered, upon whom it may be pertinent to make a few remarks, tho' to the honor of the town, this diſcription of perſons are not very numerous.—Perſons, from whom, whether we conſider their intereſt and connections, or even their former declarations, we have a right to expect different conduct from that which we experience.—Theſe, allured by the enjoyment of that voluptuouſneſs, which they participate with their new friends, have become the *jackals* of theſe would-be *lions*. Some of them indeed we do not ſo much deſpiſe for their fawning, as for its cauſe. Of too deſpicable characters and malicious diſpoſitions, to be aſſociated with by men of good principles and manners, they are enticed by their love of ſcurrility, and that indiſcribable ſympathy, which attracts kindred ſouls together, to cultivate friendſhip with thoſe who uſe them as tools, to ſound the minds of the unſuſpicious, and for emiſſaries, to be ſent like wolves in ſheeps clothing, among thoſe who are unacquainted with their change of opinions, or with the original depravity of their minds.—The offence of theſe, tho' not alarming, is of the deepeſt die—as "*Its rank, it ſmells to Heaven.*"—We may felicitate ourſelves upon ſo early a diſcovery of their characters, and whenever they ſhall attempt to diſcover our ſentiments, or to influence us to favour their new maſters, we will take care that they ſhall hear enough to convince them both, of the utter abhorrence we have of the characters of the one, and contempt for that of the other.

I do not flatter myſelf that I have made proſelytes to my *opinions*. I hope the contrary—I hope every one who will ever be ſo diſpoſed, already entertains the ſame opinion as I have avowed of the baſeneſs of the characters I have attempted to deſcribe.—Perhaps it is a proof of virtue in men that their juſt ſuſpicions and reſentments require to be awakened—that they require to be cautioned of their danger, and earneſtly excited to prevent it, when that danger proceeds from the baſeneſs and perfidy of their fellow-men—Yet againſt the practice of this virtue it is I declaim—The exerciſe of a greater and more noble virtue, than that of placing a blind confidence in men of abandoned principles, is at preſent requiſite.—The time is come, and long has been, when men of the dangerous opinions (or rather prejudices) I have ſo repeatedly named, ſhould be removed from the offices which they hold in and from the town; and I am convinced that the truth of this poſition, needs no additional proof to force conviction upon the minds of a great majority of our citizens—Let us then *act* as well as *think*.

Tho' from a want of the neceſſity, I may not have made proſelytes to my opinions, I hope I have awakened the attention of ſome, who were, perhaps, too eaſy and ſupine, to the conſideration of a ſubject of whoſe greateſt or even probable evils, if neglected, and of whoſe certain advantages if timely attended to, there is requiſite a large ſhare of imagination to conceive.—If I have excited one indifferent mind to a watchfulneſs over the welfare of his country—if I have kindled one latent ſpark of patriotic ardour, or ever ſo gently fanned a flame already lighted, I ſhall think myſelf amply repaid for the reſentment of thoſe, whoſe friendſhip I ſhall ever deſpiſe, and whoſe enmity I will ever defy.

DECIUS.

LONDON, January 7.

THE French fleet, conſiſting of 27 ſhips, certainly failed from Breſt water on the 27th ult. and directed their courſe to the weſtward. Of this material important fact, miniſters received accounts on Thurſday laſt.

Jan. 15. A letter from Smyrna, dated 15th November, states that four French frigates were cruising off that port; that the British admiral had left the Levant trade entirely at their mercy; the Grand Signior had granted the French republican residents at Smyrna fifty thousand dollars, which enabled them to fit out four frigates.

Jan. 18. By accounts from West-Flanders, dated the 11th instant, we learn, that on the 10th, the military hospital at Lisle was consumed by fire, in which there were 1800 sick, of whom the greatest part perished!

From the intelligence received from the Flanders mail of this morning, it appears, that the French are still in such force on the northeast frontier, that the Germans have as yet been able to present no effectual check to their progress. Different skirmishes have taken place, and Mannheim, Coblentz, and other places in the vicinity, are preparing to sustain a siege, should the French approach.

Dublin, Jan. 23. We have astonishing success in the war. We beat the French into Toulon—sixty miles into Germany, and into part of Italy. By the last packet it appears, that we have recently succeeded in obliging them to accept 17 Waterford vessels with provisions, and five with linen from Belfast. If we continue to succeed in this manner, we shall certainly be *ruined* by our *good fortune*.

There is no inconsistency whatever in the speech from the throne. It alludes to our *success in running away*.

CHARLESTON, April 1.

Extract of a letter from Savannah, dated the 29th of March.

"This afternoon the Industry, Capt Carvant, arrived in the river with a Spanish prize, having about 4000 doubloons, some cocoa, Malaga wine and dry goods, with 50 Spanish soldiers. The prize proves to be a brig from Carthagena to the Havanna, a king's packet, mounting 8 nine pounders. The Industry has also taken an English ship, called the Lord Middleton, bound to New-York, with 56 hogsheads of rum, which was ransomed; also, two or three other Spanish and English vessels. On board of the Spanish packet there were despatches from the Spanish government to the governors of the Spanish Main, and other letters which he intercepted—they are from Madrid and Cadiz, directed to Vera Cruz, and dated in October, November and December; also, letters in the Spanish language, from Jamaica, dated in Kingston, the 27th ult. the 1st and 4th inst. signed by a number of initial letters ending Watkins. The Captain translated these letters and read them before a large concourse of people, the substance of which was, that the French attacked Toulon with fixed bayonets and carried the place by assault; the action was bloody.—The French batteries destroyed three Spanish line of battle ships and four frigates; also, one or two English line of battle ships, and three or four frigates. Three Spanish and English generals were taken prisoners of war and a number of the royalists put to death. That the prince of Cobourg and the duke of York, with an army of 80,000 men in the environs of Valenciennes, were attacked by the French general with an army of 360,000 men, and were defeated with the loss of 24,000. Valenciennes has surrendered. That the duke of Brunswick was totally defeated and retired to the heart of Germany; the French followed and took possession of a number of cities, &c. The combined armies of France and Genoa have totally defeated the troops of Sardinia, which were compelled to retreat to the Piedmontese mountains, where they are completely blockaded.

"The National Convention have voted 50,000 men for the protection of the republic of Genoa, and 20,000,000 of livres for their support. The French have retaken Bellegarde, on which the Spanish retired, and the French followed to Catalonia. The writer adds, that if the National Convention adhere to their resolve of sending 100,000 men into that department, he is afraid for the safety of Madrid. That peace was demanded by Holland and refused by the Convention, except on condition to acknowledge the French republic, guarantee their indivisibility, and pay a propotional expence of the war. And a number of other favorable particulars, which cannot now be recollected."

The following is an estimate of the cargo of the Spanish prize sent into Savannah, received by a gentleman just arrived from thence:

3,400 doubloons	51,000 dollars
3,000 dollars	3,000
18 bars of gold, valued at	30,000
Cocoa, valued at	20,000
Dollars	104,000

BALTIMORE, April 5.

Yesterday Mr. John Spear arrived at this port, 14 days from St. Martin's. He assures us that the new instructions from the Court of St. James's have produced no kind of effect in the West India Islands. The British cruisers continue to capture every American vessel without discrimination, and carry them into port for lawful adjudication. And from this "outrage on common honesty," no vessel is exempt, whether destined to a French, a Dutch, or even a British port. Mr. Spear's own vessel and cargo were condemned, altho' the judge admitted that Mr. Spear was a native of America, and both the vessel and cargo were evidently his property.

We are informed that a Barbadoes paper has been seen, containing an order of his Britannic Majesty's, under date of 20th January, that all monies arising from the sale of American prizes should be reserved in the hands of the agents of the ships of war by which they were captured, until it should be known what part the United States of America will take in the present war.

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.

By a gentleman just arrived from Lexington (Kentucky) we are informed that Gen. Wayne moved from his winter cantonment, with the legion of the United States, on the first of March, for the Miami Villages.

The same gentleman also informs, that previous to the march of the Legion, a duel was fought by lieutenant Huston, of the 3d, and lieutenant Bradshaw, of the 1st Sub Legion, which terminated in the death of both, the former having expired on the spot, and the latter 20 hours after.

The consideration of Mr. Dayton's motion for the sequestration of British property was further postponed this day.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That during the continuance of the present embargo, no registered vessel, having on board goods, wares or merchandize shall be allowed to depart from one port of the United States to any other port within the same, unless the master, owner or consignee or factor, shall give bond with one or more sureties, to the collector of the district from which she is about to depart, in a sum of double the value of the vessel and cargo, that the said goods, wares and merchandize shall be relanded in some port of the United States; which bond, and also a certificate from the collector of the district, where the same may be relanded, shall by the collectors, respectively, be transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury. That the several collectors be prohibited from granting a clearance to any foreign ship or vessel, in any case whatever, during the continuance of the present embargo: and all armed vessels, possessing public commissions from any foreign power (letters of marque excepted) are considered as not liable to the embargo.

Approved—April 2d, 1794.

NEW-YORK, April 10.

By the schooner ———, from Norfolk, arrived yesterday, we are positively assured, that the EMBUSCADE, lately fell in with the Hussar, British frigate, and a Bermudian privateer, which she engaged, both together, and after an obstinate battle, took and sent them into that port, where they had safely arrived last Thursday. Our informant adds, that the Capt. of the Embuscade, finding them jointly of superior force, nailed his colours to the staff, and swore, with his brave ships company, that they would take them, or sink!

NEWPORT, April 15.

By His EXCELLENCY

ARTHUR FENNER, Esq;

Governor, Captain General, and Commander in Chief, of the State of *Rhode Island* and *Providence Plantations*.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY, at the Session on the last *Monday* in *March* last, passed the following Resolve, *to wit*:

"*It is Voted and Resolved*, That it be recommended to the People of this State, to observe THURSDAY, the Seventeenth Day of *April*, in the present Year, as a Day of public Worship to ALMIGHTY GOD, and a Day of FASTING, HUMILIATION and PRAYER; that it may please Him through the Mediation of our REDEEMER, mercifully to forgive our public and private Sins and Transgressions; to stay the Hand of Violence, and deliver our Citizens from Captivity; to preserve us from the Calamities of War; to protect and prosper our Trade and Navigation; so to order and govern the Seasons of the Year, that Seed Time and Harvest may not fail; to shield and secure us against the Pestilence that walketh in Darkness; to bless the Means of Education; to preserve and establish the Liberties of the United States, and the Rights of Man in all Countries: And, above all Things, that it may please Him to reform our Manners; to advance the Interest of Religion; and to grant us grateful Hearts for His manifold Goodness to us and all Men.

"*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Inhabitants of this State, to abstain from servile Labour, and unnecessary Recreations, on that Day: And that his Excellency the Governor be requested to issue a Proclamation accordingly."

I DO, THEREFORE, issue this Proclamation, to make known the same; and to call upon the good Citizens of this State, to observe the said Day as a Day of public Worship, Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, agreeable to the true Intent and Meaning of the aforegoing Resolve.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the said State, at Providence, *this Seventh Day of* April, *in the Year of our* LORD, *One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Four, and of* INDEPENDENCE *the Eighteenth.*

ARTHUR FENNER.

By his Excellency's Command,
HENRY WARD, *Sec'ry.*

GOD save the *United States* of *America*.

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Philip Rider, at Martinico, to his Friend in this Town, dated February 28, 1794.

"Health is all I have to boast of, for on the 16th or 17th of this Month the British took St. Pierre's, and I was robbed and stripped of every Thing, excepting the cloaths I had on, and one spare Shirt (the Shirt was a Privilege given to me that was not allowed to the other American Captains) but their Cruelty ended not here, for they confined us on board of a Prison Ship 48 Hours, and 36 Hours of the Time we had not a Morsel of Bread, or any Thing else, to support Nature.—After the Expiration of 48 Hours they turned us ashore, destitute of the Necessaries of Life.—They have surrounded Fort Bourbon, and fighting every Day; but the Resistance of the brave Republicans defies the Attack of the British, and I firmly believe many Men will be slain, before the English will conquer it."

MARRIED]—At South Kingston, Mr JEREMIAH N. POTTER, to Miss SALLY HAZARD, Daughter of the late Enoch Hazard, Esq; deceased.

DIED.]—In England, EDWARD GIBBON, Esq; so much distinguished by his elegant Writings.

—In this Town, Mr. BENJAMIN PEABODY.

—Mr. JOSEPH BISSELL,

—Mrs. ELIZABETH PERRIN, Widow of Mr. James Perrin, formerly of this Town, in the 84th Year of her Age.

CUSTOM-HOUSE,

District of Newport, April 15.

ENTERED,	*From*
Sloop Rambler, Pendleton,	Dighton
—— Swallow, Chaloner,	Vienna
—— Briton, Borden,	Tappahannock
—— Friendship, Borden,	Norfolk
—— Betsy, Child,	Charleston
Schooner Polly, Jeffers,	Cape Francois
—— Lydia, Morton,	Swansborough
—— Hannah, Allin,	New York
CLEARED,	*For*
Sloop Victory, Luce,	New York
—— Rambler, Pendleton,	Norfolk
—— Lively, Bunker,	Philadelphia
—— Sarah Ann, Gladding,	Ditto
Schooner Despatch, Allin,	New-York
—— Betsy & Polly, Bowen,	Hertford

LETTERS *in the* POST-OFFICE.

Newport, March 31, 1794.

COggeshall Butts, Citoyen Bouckerot, Joseph Borden (Tiverton) Job Eddy (Swanzey) Monsieur Gotiwiz, Samuel Helme, William Hunt (Little-Compton) Sarah Johnson, David Lopez, jun. Margaret Pike, Joshua Stoddard, Ann Stockman, Madam Schmatts, William Stanton, John Settas, Henry Tew, Miss Thurston, William Tilley, Eleazer Trevett, John Wood.

THEATRE, NEWPORT.

THE Managers, finding it impracticable to complete the Alterations and Embellishments they are now making in the Time limited by them for that Purpose, respectfully inform the Public, that the Performances advertised for Monday Evening next is, upon that Account, deferred until Monday following, the 28th inst.—On which Day, they propose opening the Theatre with

A new occasional Address,

Written by a *Gentleman of Newport*, and to be spoken by Mr. HARPER.

After which will be performed, for the first Time at this Theatre,

A FAVOURITE COMEDY,

IN FIVE ACTS.

To conclude with

A FARCE,

In Two Acts.

The Whole, with entire new Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations.

HARPER & PLACIDE.

Newport, April 15, 1793.

To be SOLD, or LET,

THE HOUSE, GARDEN and STABLE, where Captain ROBERT POTTER now lives, on the North Side of the Parade.—A fine convenient HOUSE, for one Family, with a Shop to it, adjoining Mrs Adancourt's, on the Long Wharf.—Inquire of

EDWARD DAVIS.

Newport, April 15, 1794.

Wanted immediately,

THREE or Four JOURNEYMEN SHOEMAKERS, at either Branch, who are Masters of their Business.—Also, an APPRENTICE,—by

CHAPPELL & HOLT.

Newport, April 14, 1794.

Miss Vinal,

Lately from Boston, informs the Public,

THAT she will open a SCHOOL immediately, at the House of Mr. WILLIAM COGGESHALL, and will be obliged to those Ladies and Gentlemen that will favour her with their Custom.

Newport, April 11. 1794.

Fifty Dollars Reward.

STOLEN last Night, or the Night before, from the Store of the Subscriber, a large Quantity of fine Goods, consisting of black and white superfine and course Laces, some very wide and of great Value; one small Trunk, about Half full of wide Laces; about 50 or 60 Boxes of French Ribbons, in some of which there were about 24 Pieces; a Number of Pieces of Scotch Handkerchiefs, mostly red; 20 Pieces of French and English Calicoes and Patches, some French Fans, and many Articles not known. Whoever will secure the Thief or Thieves, so that he or they may be brought to Justice, and the Goods recovered, shall have the above Reward, or in Proportion for any Quantity recovered, with reasonable Charges. ALEXIS TESTE.

Providence, April 5, 1794.

MARY GODDARD

Informs her Customers, and the Public in general, that she has removed to the House formerly occupied by JOHN FRYARS, deceased, near the Gaol,

WHERE she has opened a House for BOARDING and LODGING.—Those who put up at her House may depend meeting with good Entertainment.—She also keeps a Retail Shop, for Liquors &c. &c.

Newport, March 10, 1794.

ON ILL-TEMPER AND FRETFULNESS.

LET good-humour *for ever then dwell in your breaſt,*
And your conſtant companion be found;
For miſery certain awaits upon thoſe,
Who by ſpleen *and* ill-nature *are bound.*

The heart diſcompoſ'd, and by fretfulneſs ſway'd,
Can never experience delight;
For pleaſure, *at ſight of* moroſeneſs *withdraws,*
And retires, with precipitate flight.

In vain we may wiſh to recall to our aid,
Gay pleaſure *and every bright joy;*
Unleſs from our boſoms we baniſh thoſe crimes,
Which the faireſt of bleſſings deſtroy.

No pleaſures, believe me, that wretch ſhall e'er taſte,
No comfort his boſom e'er find;
Who ſuffers ill temper *to ruffle his breaſt,*
And fretfulneſs *reign in his mind.*

For the NEWPORT MERCURY.

No. 3.

TO diſplay the ill effects of Britiſh influence among our citizens, was the ſubject of a former number, and I am happy in ſeeing myſelf ſo well ſeconded by a truly patriotic writer under the ſignature of *Decius* — With the ſincerity of a Republican let me aſſure him that he already poſſeſſes my eſteem, and that I ſhall be moſt happy if our united efforts can awake a ſlumbering people. To this ſubject, the attention of Americans cannot be too often directed. The probability of War advances every day. We ſhall aſſiſt the glorious cauſe of Liberty; we ſhall humble a tyranical, imperious nation—prouder than Rome, more perfidious than Carthage. The Children of better days will bleſs our exertions; and the natives of the Millenium, will give glory to the patriots of America.

At this important period, unanimity is recommended on all ſides. That the efforts of all good men ſhould converge to a point, is what we may expect; but all are not good, all do not wiſh well to their country, in preference to private intereſts. Some have foreign connections, and what is more cheriſhed, foreign ariſtocratical principles. Why ſhould we affect to be ignorant of what is every day before our eyes—There is a party in theſe States, from whom we can expect only inactivity or treachery. In private ſtations they cannot hurt us—to do that we muſt firſt allow them our confidence.—I am willing to ſuppoſe theſe men ſincere in their former principles, and can therefore place no reliance on their ſupport. What folly is it to place them in a ſituation, when to be uſeful to us, they muſt firſt renounce what they hold moſt dear. Monarchy and Britiſh Government is the *Molten Calf* which they have hitherto worſhipped, and can theſe idolaters ever poſſeſs a ſincere regard for the true Religion of Republicaniſm. I am willing to expect every thing probable, from the new-born patriotiſm with which ſome of them ſeem animated; and ſo far are they deſerving of our protection; but in God's name what have they done to expect to become our judge. ? Is it that they have once attempted to ſubjugate their country ? Is it from their abilities which are ſtrangers to our good ? Is it from the obſtinacy which has hitherto accompanied their conduct, that we can form any favourable idea of their future attachment ?

When I ſee a man appear triumphantly in the public ſtreets, who once endeavoured to enſlave his fellow-citizens, to give up this fertile country to the devaſtations of the Britiſh locuſts, and to the horrors of civil war, I conſider his appearance as a mark of the proſperity of this nation, which looks down upon ſuch men with contempt. But when I view this country as threatned with a terrible war, by the patron of theſe men, and ſee them lifted up on the ſhoulders of freemen to power, with the ſame diſpoſitions as ever towards Liberty—I am aſtoniſhed ! If this conduct is continued, every ſea-port will be a Toulon; every interior a Lyons, and a Briſſotine Faction will coagulate the life blood of repreſentation.

If any one of theſe characters has altered his ſentiments, let him come forth boldly and avow it, before the public. We know already his former principles.—We recognize them in the curſes of the preſent, and they will be followed by the deteſtation of future generations. Let his recantation be as public as his errors. If he is ſincere, he would adopt the humiliating ſtyle of remorſe and repentance: He would ſpeak thus; "I throw my-"ſelf upon the mercy of my fellow-citizens. I view "my paſt life with horror. It has been my whole em-"ployment, to reduce my country to ſlavery; and in "failure of that, to lay waſte its territories, to wrap its "cities in flames. And now, in ſpite of my adherence "to former principles, the lenity of my countrymen, "which permits me to live with them, has induced me "to aſpire to office. I do not mean to reflect on your "judgment, when I ſay I have heretofore ſucceeded. "But your eyes are now opened. You ſee the folly of "appointing a man to aſſiſt in governing you, who "thinks and will act contrary to what concerns your "property, your lives, and your freedom. I am ſatis-"fied, I have done nothing to deſerve your confidence. "I cannot aſpire to any office of truſt, but let me be "placed, not in a poſt of inglorious eaſe, that is the "reward of the faithful veteran, but in the fore front "of the hotteſt battle."

This is the language of conviction, but it is not what we muſt expect: It is eaſier to continue on in the old way,—to rely on the Indifference of the people, and to triumph.——This attacks us on our weakeſt ſide. Indifference is the bane of nations; it has proved fatal oftner than all other cauſes of their overthrow.—The clouds riſe at a diſtance, the tempeſt is forgotten; but theſe men lift up their heads, only to draw the blaſtings of Britain's machinations, and to conduct the lightning of perdition among us. But this Indifference is, I hope, done away. I am happy in noticing a late inſtance of the ſpirit of my fellow-citizens. They have profited by Experience, and have wiped off the diſgrace of a former inactivity. Not only their feelings, but their judgment is now intereſted; and I dare preſage a happy reſult.—At the next Election they will purge the repreſentation; and if there be a Man ſo hardy, as to nominate a *Tory* for any office of Truſt, he ought to be conſidered as a *Traitor*.

HOSTILIUS.

BOSTON, April 7.

On Saturday evening arrived a veſſel from St. Vincent's. An obliging correſpondent has favoured us with a St. Vincent's paper, of March 8, from which the following is extracted:

King's Speech,

At the Opening of PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 21.

HOUSE of LORDS.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE Circumſtances under which you are now aſſembled, require your moſt ſerious attention.

We are engaged in a conteſt, on the iſſue of which, depend the maintenance of our conſtitution, laws, and religion, and the ſecurity of all civil ſociety.

You muſt have obſerved with ſatisfaction, the advantages which have been obtained by the arms of the allied powers, and the change which has taken place in the general ſituation of Europe, ſince the commencement of the war. The United Provinces have been protected from invaſion. The Auſtrian Netherlands have been recovered and maintained; and places of conſiderable importance have been acquired on the frontiers of France. The recapture of Mentz and the ſubſequent ſucceſſes of the Allied armies on the Rhine, have notwithſtanding the advantages recently obtained by the enemy in that quarter, proved highly beneficial to the common cauſe.—Powerful efforts have been made by my Allies in the South of Europe.—The temporary poſſeſſion of the town and Fort of Toulon, has greatly diſtreſſed the operations of my enemies; and in the evacuation of that place, an important and deciſive blow has been given to their naval power, by the diſtinguiſhed conduct, abilities and ſpirit of my commanders, officers and forces, both by ſea and land.

The French have been driven from their poſſeſſions and fiſhery at Newfoundland, and important and valuable acquiſitions have been made both in the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies.

At ſea, our ſuperiority has been undiſputed, and our commerce ſo effectively protected, that the loſſes ſuſtained have been inconſiderable in proportion to its extent, and to the captures made on the contracted trade of the enemy.

The circumſtances, by which the further progreſs of the allies has hitherto been impeded, not only proved the neceſſity of vigor and perſeverence on our part, but at the ſame time confirmed the expectation of ultimate ſucceſs. Our enemies have derived the means of temporary exertion, from a ſyſtem which has enabled them to diſpoſe arbitrarily of the lives and property of a numerous people, and which openly violates every juſtice, humanity and religion. But theſe efforts, productive as they neceſſarily have been of internal diſcontent and confuſion, have alſo tended rapidly to exhauſt the national and real ſtrength of that country.

Although I cannot but regret the neceſſary continuance of the war, I ſhould ill conſult the eſſential intereſts of my people if I were deſirous of peace, on any grounds but ſuch as may provide for their permanent ſafety, and for the independence and ſecurity of Europe. The attainment of theſe ends is ſtill obſtructed by the prevalence of a ſyſtem in France, equally incompatible with the happineſs of that country, and with the tranquility of all other nations.

Under this impreſſion, I thought proper to make a declaration of the views and principles by which I am guided. I have ordered a copy of this declaration to be laid before you, together with copies of ſeveral conventions and treaties with different powers, by which you will perceive how large a part of Europe is united in a cauſe of ſuch general concern.

I reflect, with unſpeakable ſatisfaction, on the ſteady loyalty and firm attachment to the eſtabliſhed conſtitution and government, which, notwithſtanding the continued efforts employed to miſlead and to ſeduce, have been ſo generally prevalent among all ranks of my people. Theſe ſentiments have been eminently manifeſted in the zeal and alacrity of the militia to provide for our internal defence, and in the diſtinguiſhed bravery and ſpirit diſplayed on every occaſion by my forces, both by ſea and land: They have maintained the luſtre of the Britiſh name, and have ſhewn themſelves worthy of the bleſſings, which it is the object of all our exertions to preſerve.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the neceſſary eſtimates and accounts, to be laid before you; and I am perſuaded, you will be ready to make ſuch proviſion as the exigences of the ſame may require. I feel too ſenſibly the repeated proofs which I have received of the affection of my ſubjects, not to lament the neceſſity of any additional burthens. It is, however, a great conſolation to me, to obſerve the favourable ſtate of the revenue, and compleat ſucceſs of the meaſure, which was laſt year adopted, for removing the embarraſſments affecting commercial credit.

Great as muſt be the extent of our exertions, I truſt you will be enabled to provide for them in ſuch a manner, as to avoid any preſſure which could be ſeverely felt by my people.

In your deliberations, you will undoubtedly bear in mind, the true ground and origin of the war.

An attack was made on us and our Allies, founded on principles which tend to deſtroy all property; to ſubvert the laws and religion of every civilized nation; and to introduce, univerſally, that wild and deſtructive ſyſtem of rapine, anarchy, and impiety; the effects of which, as they have already been manifeſted in France, furniſh a dreadful, but uſeful leſſon, to the preſent age, and to poſterity.

It only remains for us to continue to perſevere in our united exertions; their diſcontinuance or relaxation could hardly procure even a ſhort interval of deluſive repoſe, and could never terminate in ſecurity or peace.—Impreſſed with the neceſſity of defending all that is moſt dear to us, and relying, as we may with confidence, on the value and reſources of the nation, on the combined efforts of ſo large a part of Europe, and above all on the inconteſtable juſtice of our cauſe, let us render our conduct a contraſt to that of our enemies, and by cultivating and practiſing the principles of humanity, and the duties of religion, endeavour to merit the continuance of the divine favour and protection, which have been ſo eminently experienced by theſe kingdoms.

TAKE NOTICE,

The CO-PARTNERSHIP of
THOMAS GREEN and SON,
being by mutual Conſent diſſolved,

NOTICE is hereby given, That all thoſe who have Accounts open with them, are requeſted immediately to bring them in for Settlement.—And all thoſe who are indebted to them, by Bond, Note or Book-Account, are earneſtly requeſted to make ſpeedy Payment.——Such as are not diſcharged ſoon, they will be obliged to put in Suit—eſpecially thoſe of long Standing.

Newport, March 22, 1794.

TO LET,

A Convenient HOUSE (and the Rents appropriated to Repairs) adjoining, Weſterly, the Houſe occupied by Mr. PHILIP ROBINSON, with a Yard, Water, &c. and Poſſeſſion given this Month.—Inquire of
EDWARD HAZARD.

Newport, April 5, 1794.

Chriſtopr. Champlin

HATH FOR SALE AT HIS STORE,

BEST Peterſburg clean
HEMP,
RUSSIA DUCK,
RAVENS DUCK,
SWEDISH BAR-IRON,
of the firſt Quality.

CLARKE & HAMMOND

HAVE FOR SALE,

FINE and Superfine Flour, Brandy, Geneva, Rum, Loaf and Brown Sugar, Bohea Tea by the Cheſt, Half and Quarter Cheſts; Franklin and cloſe Stoves, Bar-Iron, Share-Moulds, Salt, Pepper, Pimento, Nutmegs, &c. &c. as uſual, cheap for ready Caſh.

Stephen Pierce,

HAS FOR SALE,

BUNTING and ready made COLOURS. Alſo, an Aſſortment of neat GUN-LOCKS and BRASS FURNITURE, POWDER and SHOT.

Newport, October 21, 1793.

FLAX.

WANTED,

For the DUCK MANUFACTORY *in this Town,*

A QUANTITY of long, well-dreſſed FLAX, for which Caſh, and a good Price, will be given.—Apply to
CHRISTOPHER FOWLER.

Newport, January 27, 1794.

For *SALE*,

THE HOUSE and STORES belonging to the Eſtate of ELNATHAN HAMMOND, deceaſed, now improved by JACOB RICHARDSON.—For Terms, apply to the Subſcribers;—who once more requeſt all Perſons, having Accounts open with ſaid HAMMOND, to exhibit them for Settlement; and thoſe who are any ways indebted to his Eſtate, are deſired to make immediate Payment to either of the Subſcribers, Executors of his laſt will and Teſtament.

BENJAMIN PABODIE,
SAMUEL SANFORD,
CALEB LYNDON.

Newport, March 24, 1794.

THE Subſcribers being appointed by the Honorable Town Council of Newport, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors againſt the Eſtate of JOSEPH CARD, late of ſaid Newport, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent, and Five Months longer being allowed for that Purpoſe, do hereby notify all Perſons having any juſt Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, that they exhibit the ſame to either of us, at our reſpective Dwellings, within the aboveſaid Time.

ELISHA LAWTON,
SAMUEL VINSON.

Newport, April 7, 1794.

NOTICE is hereby given, to all Perſons indebted to the Eſtate of the Rev. Dr. SOLOMON SPRAGUE, late of Exeter, in the County of Waſhington, deceaſed, immediately to come and ſettle their Accounts, by Payment or Notes, in order to enable the Executor and Executrix to ſettle and pay the Legacies;—And thoſe that have any Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, are requeſted to preſent their Demands for Payment, to the Subſcribers.

SIMON SPRAGUE *Executor.*
ISABEL SPRAGUE *Executrix.*

Exeter, March 17, 1794